

CONSUMER PROTECTION



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News

May 2001 Edition

Dear Wisconsin Children's Safety Advocates:

In April, 2001, the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission issued **nine (9) recalls relating to products affecting children.** Attached is a summary of the releases identifying the product, problem and what should be done with the recalled product.

We have found that not all of the recalls are picked up by the news media as they occur. This monthly summary will give you the opportunity to review all of the children's product safety recalls for the past month.

If you are interested in a complete text of the recall, double click on the hyperlink at the end of the recall description. This will take you to the CPSC website and the actual recall notice.

If you have other product safety questions you may call our toll free number at **(800) 422-7128** and then press **"zero" (0) to speak with Product Safety.** You should leave your name, your organization's name and a phone number.

Following is a listing of the nine "KIDS" recalls by title and identification number:

- ❖ Fleetwood EXIM Inc. is recalling Cigarette Lighters. #01-120
- ❖ Tony USA Inc. is recalling Easter Egg Garlands. #01-122
- ❖ Gladstrong Investments USA is recalling Disposable Cigarette Lighters. #01-124
- ❖ DFS Group Ltd. is recalling Cigarette Lighters. #01-128
- ❖ Disney Store is recalling Children's Costumes. #01-129
- ❖ Dynacraft is recalling Boys' Mountain Bicycles. #01-132
- ❖ ASICS TIGER Corp. is recalling Wrestling Ear Guards. #01-133
- ❖ Creative Consumer Concepts Inc. and Whataburger Inc. are recalling Kid's Meal Toys. #01-135
- ❖ Evenflo is recalling Evenflo Joyride Car Seats/Carriers for repair. #01-137

We hope you find this service of value and that it assists you to:

"KEEP YOUR KIDS SAFE!"

KEEP YOUR KIDS SAFE

Release Number: 01-120 Fleetwood EXIM Inc. of Grenada, Miss., is voluntarily recalling about 950,000 disposable cigarette lighters. The disposable cigarette lighters being recalled are oval tube shaped with a roll and press type ignition mechanism. The lighters have a blue, orange, red or clear transparent case and a chrome metal windshield surrounding the flame port. Stamped into one side of the windshield is the brand name "youjie". A warning label on the back of the lighters reads in part, "WARNING: KEEP AWAY FROM CHILDREN" and "MADE IN CHINA". Convenience, gas, and grocery stores in the southeastern region of the U.S. sold the recalled cigarette lighters from June 2000 through February 2001 for about \$1.

Problem: The lighters have child-resistant mechanisms that do not work. Young children could ignite the lighters, presenting fire and burn hazards.

What to do: Consumers should stop using the lighters immediately and return them to the store where purchased for a full refund. For more information, call Fleetwood EXIM toll-free at (888) 251-5252 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. ET Monday through Friday.

- <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtm01/01120.html>

Release Number: 01-122 Tony USA Inc., of Encinitas, Calif., is voluntarily recalling about 200,000 Easter egg garlands. The recalled garland is 6-feet long and is made of plastic, egg-shaped beads. The green, yellow, blue, purple, and red beads are connected together by a clear, plastic string. Writing on the packaging reads in part, "Made in China" and "mini 6 Foot Egg Garland." Discount stores nationwide sold the decorative items from February 2001 through April 2001 for about \$2.

Problem: The string can break and release the eggs, posing a choking hazard to young children.

What to do: Consumers should stop using these garlands immediately and return them to the store where purchased for a refund. For more

information, call the CPSC Hotline at (800) 638-2772 anytime.

- <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtm01/01122.html>

Release Number: 01-124 Gladstrong Investments USA, of Hacienda Heights, Calif., is voluntarily recalling about 13 million disposable lighters. The recalled lighters have their brand name, "BODA-BING," "GIL," "HAPPY," or "WAX" stamped on both sides of their metal tops. The UPC bar code on the lighters' labels is "0-80692-99930-1," "0-295114-0" or starts with "7-55998." Writing on these lighters includes "MADE IN CHINA." The lighters were sold in various colors. Convenience, drug and discount stores nationwide sold these lighters from January 1998 through February 2001 for about \$1.

Problem: The lighters' child-resistant mechanisms are frequently ineffective. Young children are able to operate the lighters, posing a fire hazard.

What to do: Consumers should stop using these lighters immediately and return them to the store where purchased for a refund. For more information, call Gladstrong at (877) 666-0664 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. PT Monday through Friday.

- <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtm01/01124.html>

Release Number: 01-128 DFS Group Ltd., of San Francisco, Calif., is voluntarily recalling about 65,000 cigarette lighters packaged in souvenir sets with ashtrays, pencils or pens. The lighters being recalled are refillable, electronic ignition lighters and bear location names such as "Hawaii," "Guam," "Saipan," "Las Vegas," "USA" etc. The lighters have flip-up caps over the push-down ignition buttons. An orange label on the back of the lighters reads, "WARNING: KEEP LIGHTER OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN - THIS LIGHTER IS NOT CHILD RESISTANT." The packaging of these sets have labels that read, "MADE IN CHINA." DFS stores in Hawaii, Guam, Saipan,

San Francisco, Las Vegas, and Portland sold these souvenir sets from January 1996 through April 2001 for between \$12 and \$15.

Problem: The lighters do not have child-resistant mechanisms. Young children can ignite the lighters, presenting fire and burn hazards.

What to do: Consumers should stop using these lighters immediately and return them to the DFS store where purchased for a refund. For more information, consumers should call DFS at (800) 225-2777 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. PT Monday through Friday. U.S. Customs alerted CPSC to this product hazard.

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<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml01/01128b.html>

Release Number: 01-129 Disney Store, of Glendale, Calif., is voluntarily recalling about 54,000 Princess Ariel (The Little Mermaid) costumes. The Princess Ariel costume has a green skirt with two layers of netting on top and a sequined purple metallic bodice with a picture of Ariel. The costumes were sold in youth sizes 2-4, 4-6X and 8-10. The neckline labels read "The Disney Store." The Disney Store sold the costumes for Halloween from July 2000 through October 2000. The Disney Store catalog and DisneyStore.com sold the costumes from July 2000 through January 2001. The costumes sold for about \$29. The recall does not include Princess Ariel costumes sold before July 2000. The earlier Ariel costume was a mermaid fin-like costume with a knee-length, sequined skirt.

Problem: Fabric used in these costumes can ignite readily and presents a serious risk of burn injuries in violation of the Federal Flammable Fabrics Act.

What to do: Consumers should stop wearing these costumes immediately, and return them to any Disney Store or to the Disney Store catalog for a refund and a \$10 gift certificate. For more information, call Disney at (800) 328-5902 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. CT Monday through Friday, or e-mail the company at disneystore.costume@disneyonline.com.

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<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml01/01129.html>

Release Number: 01-132 Dynacraft Industries Inc., of San Rafael, Calif., is voluntarily

recalling about 38,000 boys' mountain bicycles. These 20-inch, 21-speed, dual-suspension bicycles have the model name "NEXT SHOCKZONE" written on their orange frame in black lettering. A label on the frame near the crank housing reads, "Distributed by Dynacraft Industries" and "Made in China." Only the orange bicycles with model number 8536-33 are included in this recall. The model number is written on another label on the frame near the crank housing. Wal-Mart stores sold these bicycles nationwide from September 1999 through March 2001 for about \$130.

Bicycles with a label at the bottom of the fork that reads, "Fork made Jan., 2000" or "Fork made July, 2000" are not part of this recall.

Problem: Front-suspension forks on the bikes can break during use, resulting in serious injury.

What to do: Consumers should stop using these bicycles immediately, and call Dynacraft to receive a free replacement fork and to arrange for free installation. For more information, consumers should call Dynacraft at (800) 551-0032 between 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. ET Monday through Friday, visit their web site at www.dynacraftbikes.com.

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<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml01/01132.html>

Release Number: 01-133 ASICS TIGER Corp., of Irvine, Calif., is voluntarily recalling about 60,000 ear guards used in wrestling. The recall involves ASIC Gel Wrestling Ear Guard with Neoprene. The guard includes two plastic ear pieces covered with neoprene nylon. The ASICS red logo is on a label on the guard's strap. A gold label inside the guard reads, "MADE IN CHINA." A date code can be found written on the neoprene nylon underneath the outer rim of the ear piece. The recalled guards have date codes beginning with "98" or "99." The guards are white, red, purple, black, navy blue, royal blue, green or gold. Sports specialty and team sport stores, and team sport catalogs sold these guards nationwide from June 1998 - March 2001 for about \$25.

Problem: The plastic protective shell of these guards can break when it is hit against a hard surface, resulting in impact injuries to the wrestler's head.

What to do: Consumers should stop using these ear guards immediately, and return them to the store where purchased or to the firm for a free replacement. For more information, call ASICS

TIGER Corp. at (888) 380-8222 anytime, or go to the firm's web site at www.asicstiger.com.

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<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml01/01133.html>

Release Number: 01-135 Creative Consumer Concepts Inc., of Overland Park, Kan., and Whataburger Inc., of Corpus Christi, Texas, are voluntarily recalling about 330,000 "Whatagear" compass toys. Creative Consumer Concepts Inc. manufactured these toys, which were distributed with kids' meals at Whataburger Restaurants. The "Whatagear" compass is a plastic toy with a compass in its center. The toys have varied features, such as flashlights, magnifying lenses or tools. They come in various solid colors. The back of the compass reads, "WHATAGEAR" and "WHATABURGER." Whataburger Restaurants in Alabama, Arizona, Florida, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas distributed the toys from March 2001 through April 2001.

Problem: The clear, plastic lens covers on these compass toys can come off and pose a choking hazard to young children.

What to do: Parents should take these toys away from children immediately, and return the toy to any Whataburger Restaurant for a free replacement toy. For more information, call Creative Consumer Concepts toll-free at (866) 327-2216 anytime; write to: Creative Consumer Concepts Inc., ATTN: Compass, 10955 Granada Lane, Overland Park, KS 66211; or go to the firm's web site at www.c3.to.

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<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml01/01135.html>

Release Number: 01-137 Evenflo Co. Inc., of Vandalia, Ohio, is recalling about 3.4 million Joyride® infant car seats/carriers. The recall involves all Evenflo Joyride® car seats/carriers, which are white or gray plastic with seat pads of various colors and patterns. "Evenflo Joyride Car Seat/Carrier" is written on the outside of the handle locks. The seats have model numbers beginning with 203, 205, 210, 435 or 493, which can be found on a label underneath or on the side of the car seat/carrier. Juvenile product, mass merchandise and major discount stores nationwide sold the car seats/carriers from January 1988 through December 1998 for about \$30 when sold alone, \$48 when sold as a Travel

Tandem® (with a detachable convenience base), and \$89 when sold with a matching stroller. Evenflo will provide consumers with a free easy-to-install repair kit that helps secure the handle.

Problem: When the seat is used as an infant carrier, the handle can unexpectedly release, causing the seat to flip forward. When this happens, an infant inside the carrier can fall to the ground and suffer serious injuries.

What to do: Consumers should not carry the seat by the handle until it has been repaired. To receive a free repair kit, call Evenflo toll-free at (800) 557-3178 anytime, or visit the website at <http://www.joyridecarseat.com/>. Consumers should have the car seat in front of them when they call or access the website. Consumers with questions about this recall campaign should call CPSC's Hotline at (800) 638-2772 or visit CPSC's website at www.cpsc.gov. Information also is available at the NHTSA's toll-free Auto Safety Hotline at (888) DASH-2-DOT (327-4236) or visit NHTSA's website at www.nhtsa.gov.

"Riding in a car seat in the vehicle's rear seat is the safest way to transport young children in a motor vehicle," said NHTSA Executive Director Bob Shelton. "The recall announced today is related to only using the seat as a carrier and not to how the seat performs while in a car. Parents should continue to use these carriers as car seats." CPSC, NHTSA and Evenflo remind caregivers to always restrain infants according to the instructions when in the car seat/carrier.

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<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml01/01137.html>